

"What Civil Defense Means To Me"

Judy Sadler, Age 14
Brookings-Harbor High School
Civil Defense should mean a great deal to every American citizen. But, before it can mean anything to us we must find out the meaning and purpose of the Civil Defense program.

Civil Defense is the preparation of the people and the worked out methods for minimizing the effects of war on civilian communities. Civil Defense means that our lives, our homes, and country are protected from destruction, thus assuring the freedoms provided for us by the Constitution. Civil Defense is necessary to these freedoms because of the protection it gives.

Measures of Civil Defense were started in World War II. At that time the object was not to prevent the effects of war, but to keep them from being so bad. After that, Civil Defense grew according to the people's sense in the need of protection. In some states the amount of defense depended on the sense of responsibility of the people, and in other states, it was required by the state government. If Civil Defense hadn't been started long ago, we would not be as safe today as we are. We would have had to start from the very beginning as the people of those days did.

There are many kinds of Civil Defense. In case of a bombing, places underground for shelter are provided in cities that are most likely to be bombed. There are prac-

tices for air raids in which a whistle or a series of signals warn the people. In charge of these, is the air raid warden. Also in case of bombing, the evacuation committees are always ready to see that the people are in safe places so as not to become injured or killed. Always on hand are first aid units, doctors and nurses, and facilities needed for injured people.

Probably the most familiar measure of Civil Defense is the Ground Observer Corps. Citizens of the communities in which there is one of these groups volunteer their services for a few hours a week. They volunteers go into a building sometimes called a listening post, and watch and listen for any airplanes which might be in the vicinity. A call from these Ground Observers could mean that our country would be saved from destruction.

Another branch of the Civil Defense is the group of people who check the water supply for poison. Also the power plants and lines must be closely watched, because without power or water we would be in a very unfortunate situation.

Some people might ask, "Well, what does it do to spend a lot of time and money on this defense program if later on the city might be bombed?" One good answer to this question is that the city that has taken all the steps of precaution may be able to warn some other city, and, thus save many other lives and cities and possibly our whole country.

We should, indeed be grateful for all the protection that we have. People from other countries that have been bombed during the wars, who now live in our country realize how really fortunate we are to have all the protection that is ours. These people, some of them aliens, some of them naturalized citizens, of the United States, have had to fight for themselves right in their own communities. We who are citizens of this wonderful country cannot realize how hard it is to be living in a country or city that is being bombed and having to be in the midst of all of it without protection.

It is time we begin to realize what a wonderful country we live in, and how necessary it is to defend it. We are fortunate in having such a full Civil Defense program.

PLAN WELL CHILD CLINIC FOR FRIDAY

There will be a Well Child Clinic at the Brookings Grade School on April 15, between the hours of 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Dr. Ronniger will give physical examinations and immunizations, and will be assisted by Doradisa Miller, Public Health Nurse.

Mr and Mrs. Randall Carter, Reo Dell, Calif. visited Mr. and Mrs. Homer Brown for the Easter holidays.

This is what Civil Defense means to me.

TELL OF ACCIDENT DECLINE IN STATE

The Highway Lifesavers Committee of Oregon Citizens has released a report on the traffic fatalities in Oregon for 1954. The total deaths were 420, an increase from 39, in 1953, but a decrease from 427 in 1952.

All traffic accidents and injuries were greatly reduced—about 20 percent—in number in 1954, as compared with 1953.

Injuries in Curry County showed 77 in 1954, 74 in 1953, and 1952 compared with 1953. In 1954 there were 59,839 traffic accidents compared with 68,959 in 1953, and 72,389 in 1952.

Injuries decreased to 13,888 in 1954 compared with 16,563 in 1953, and 15,125 in 1952. In Curry County there were five fatalities, compared with four.

Mrs. Edna Sitts, sister of Mr. George Lostron, from Santa Monica, Calif. visited since Friday, April 8th. She left by plane for Salem Monday to visit her sisters there.

Temperance To Apply To Eating

Temperance should apply to eating habits as well as drinking habits, Mrs. Tompkins reminded women during the cooking classes conducted at the VFW Hall.

"Food that is eaten in large quantities or in too great variety at a single meal place a great strain on the digestion. Foods included in the instructions 'taboo' are: tea, coffee, spices, condiments, and concentrated sweets which are irritants and stimulants; very hot or very cold foods; large quantities of liquid with the meal; such indigestible foods as cured cheese

vinegar, pickles and fried foods. "All of us are happier when we feel good and in order to feel good we simply must obey the laws of nature," Mrs. Tompkins said. She pointed out that Seventh Day Adventists, who have sponsored the lectures, stress proper diet and do not eat or drink intoxicating beverages. "If you mix this with outdoor recreation and plenty of rest, you have gone a long way down the road to health and happiness," she said.

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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Learn How to Pull Together

Saw a kid go by the Clarian office on a brand-new coaster wagon yesterday—and it reminded me of when my brother and I were about forty years younger.

Our folks weren't poor, but there wasn't enough to buy two wagons for Christmas. We got one between us. Dad made a rule that we each could have it for a week—but the boy with the wagon was responsible for keeping the kitchen wood-box filled.

Seemed a bargain to Bud and me—at first. But soon we discovered it was no more fun playing

alone than working alone. It wasn't long before we were sharing the wagon in return for sharing the chores.

From where I sit, you can't enjoy a privilege yourself if you're going to deny it to others. There are some folks who want the right to enjoy their favorite beverage—but would deny me my right to an occasional glass of beer. I doubt if such people get their full "share" of happiness, though.

Joe Marsh

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